

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

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UNCLAS ROME 12132

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, FAO, CODEL RIBICOFF

SUBJ: CODEL RIBICOFF

REF: A. STATE 176462, B. ROME 11480. C. STATE 174772

1. PRELIMINARY VISIT OF MRSSRS. HOFF AND CHILDERS. WE ASSUME THEY WILL MAKE THEIR OWN, WAY TO TOWN BY AIRPORT BUS. AMBASSAODR FRANCIS DALE, WHO IS CONCLUDING HIS ASSIGNMENT IN GENEVA, WILL BE IN ROME AT SAME TIME, AND WISHES TO SEE CODEL. HE ARRIVES JULY 31 AND WILL BE STAYING AT HOTEL IMPERIALE NEAR HOTEL LONDRA CARGILL. SUGGEST WE ALL MEET IN FODAG OFFICE OPENING OF BUSINESS 8:30

AM MONDAY, AUGUST2, AFTER WHICH WE WOULD MEET WITH FAO ADMINISTRATIVE-PERSONNEL OFFICIALS IN MORNING AND WORLD FOOD PROGRAM OFFICIALS IN AFTERNOON. ON AUGUST 3, WE WOULD TALK FURTHER WITH FAO OFFICIALS. SUBSTANTIVE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL OFFICIALS WILL PROBABLY NOT BE HERE, AND THESE TALKS SHOULD BE DEFERRED UNTIL AUGUST 17-18 PERIOD FOR WALTERS, AND BASICALLY CONDUCTED WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HANNAH IN NEW YORK OR WASHINGTON.

2. AUGUST 15-19 VISIT. AS WE BEGAN TO DEVELOP SCHEDULE WITH FAO, WE LEARNED FOR FIRST TIME THAT FAO IS OBSERVING AUGUST 16 AS HOLIDAY (IN LIEU OF ITALIAN AUGUST 15 FERRAGOSTO). AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT, BUT OTHER EMBASSIES AND AGENCIES HAVE ANTICIPATED ITALIAN GOVERNMENTAL OR CUSTOMARY HOLIDAY, AND IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO DO BUSINESS WITH ANYONE OTHER THAN AMERICAN

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EMBASSY AUGUST 16. WE LEAVE IT TOHCODEL TO DECIDE WHETHER THEY

WISH TO TALK WITH EMBASSY, HAVE FREE DAY, OR RESCHEDULE THEIR ARRIVAL. SCHEDULES OF OFFICIALS HERE ARE STILL NOT FIRM, BUT WE WILL SEND WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS A PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS WITH FAO, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, AND WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HARRY WLATERS) FOR AUGUST 17-18. U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO NORRED PROPOSES TO GIVE MR. AND MRS. COCKTAILS AUGUST 10 AT 7:30 PM, INVITING PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF GENEVA GROUP COUNTRIES AND FEW OTHER SELECTED COUNTRIES WHO ARE NOT AWAY ON LEAVE, PLUS TOP FAO, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, AND WORLD FOOD COUNCIL OFFICIALS WITH WHOM CODEL HAS TALKED.

3. AMBASSADOR VOLPE'S PLANS NOW CALL FOR HIM TO BE AWAY THROUGHOUT SENATOR RIBICOFF'S VISIT, AND HE REGRETS THAT HE CANNOT INVITE SENATOR AND MRS. RIBICOFF TO DINNER AS HE HAD HOPED. HE IS WRITING A LETTER TO SENATOR RIBICOFF.

4. ASSUME USUAL FT AUTHORIZATION FOR CODEL WILL BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY TO ENABLE US TO FIRM UP RENTAL CAR OR CARS WELL IN ADVANCE OF THAT ITALIAN VACATION PERIOD WHEN SUCH CARS AND DRIVERS ARE AT A PREMIUM. VOLPE

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